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12/12/02  
AS

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : T. Tran  
ANTONUCCI et al :  
Serial No.: 09/702,322 : Group: 1741  
Filed: October 31, 2000 :  
For: POLYMERIC...ABOVE 100°C :

600 Third Avenue  
New York N.Y. 10016  
December 2, 2002

RECEIVED  
DEC 05 2002  
TC 1700

AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of July 18, 2002, please amend  
this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

**Claim 12** (twice amended) A method for conditioning a  
polymeric proton exchange membrane for operation at temperatures  
above 100°C, the method comprising the steps of:

- DI
- a: heating the membrane to a temperature at least about 5°C  
above its said intended operating temperature;
  - b: selecting a desired percentage of conversion of the  
membrane polymer from an initial amorphous phase to a  
crystalline phase;
  - c: holding said membrane at an elevated temperature for a  
predetermined interval, wherein the predetermined  
interval has been selected to permit the desired  
percentage conversion of amorphous to crystalline